

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2309 - HB 2621

February 11, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires each Local Education Agency (LEA) to designate a foster care liaison to facilitate LEA compliance with state and federal laws related to foster care. Requires the LEA to collaborate with the Department of Children's Services to address educational barriers for such students. Authorizes an LEA to establish a building point of contact in each elementary school, middle school, and high school to assist in coordinating services and resources for students in foster care.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- The Federal "Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965" ESEA section 111(g)(E)(i-iv) sets out assurances for the educational stability of children in foster care. These assurances include: collaboration and points of contact for child welfare agencies with schools and other state agencies, ensuring a child is enrolled in a school in their best interest, and allows obtainment of the child's records for facilitating transfers.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Education, each LEA has a designated point of contact that monitors and provides professional development care.
 - Point of contacts are existing positions such as a federal programs coordinator, student services director, or attendance supervisor.
 - Building points of contacts are a school counselor or social worker in the building.
- Establishing a building point of contact is permissive; any LEA that adds a building point of contact to a school can be handled within existing resources.
- The requirements of this legislation will codify current practice into state law, which will not result in a significant impact to state or local government.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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